Qualitywise, III/IV seams are inferior. Again during the year 1990-91. production/stacking from V seam and III/IV seams started separately. The grade declared for the year 1990-91 in respect of the seams was as under :—

III/IV Seam — ROM Grade — W.III

V Seam — ROM Grade — W.II

At present (1991-92) gradation of the coal seam for this colliery is as under :

III/IV/VA Seams — ROM Grade— W.III

V Seam — ROM Grade—W.III

Gradation of coal seam/seams is done by Coal Controller. It was due to initiative taken by the coal company to stack the production from V seam separately that the company was able to get a better price for this coal. In view of the above no enquiry appears necessary in this case.

Filling up of vacant posts in Railway

4567. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI :
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees working in the Railways:

(b) the total number of persons retired and recruited during the last three years, year-wise:

(c) the number of existing vacancies in the various posts: and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies and the future plan in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) 16,46,704 as on 31-03-1990.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

LPG Agencies in Jalpaiguri

4568. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria regarding the maximum number of consumers attached with a LPG dealer:

(b) whether the criteria are followed in respect of all dealers in North Bengal, especially in Jalpaiguri; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to allot more dealerships in that city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) the maximum number of consumers attached with an LPG distributor depends upon the sale of refill cylinders per month for which ceiling limits, based on population of Towns except in Metropolitan Cities, have been fixed. This is however subject to overall product availability.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) New LPG distributorship are based on factors including population of towns, economic viability, marketing plans and policy from time to time.